



Hiking Iceland's Magical North Private Adventure

8 Days



The Adventure Company | EST. 1969

MT+SOBEKTM
MOUNTAIN TRAVEL SOBEK

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS
AS THE PIONEER OF ADVENTURE TRAVEL

➤ Hiking Iceland's Magical North Private Adventure

Take in the magnificence of Iceland's arctic north on this unparalleled adventure. Experience its beauty up close on spectacular daily hikes that snake through the craggy highland landscape. Marvel as our experienced guides lead you from fishing hamlets to moonlike lava fields and snow-capped volcanoes, from the gaping Asbyrgi canyon to the continent's most powerful waterfall, and from a craft-beer brewery to the best ice cream in the land — while enjoying the comfort of hotels at night. And where better to rest your weary feet than soothing geothermal pools?

Details

Arrive: Reykjavik, Iceland

Depart: Reykjavik, Iceland

Duration: 8 Days

Group Size: 5-16 Guests

Minimum Age: 18 Years Old

Activity Level:



Testimonials

"I've taken six MTS trips and they have all exceeded my expectations. The staff, the food, the logistics and the communications have always been exceptional. Thank you for being my "go to" adventure travel company!"

Margaret I.

"I have traveled extensively around the world. The experience with MTS was by far the best I have ever had. Thank you for such excellence."

Marianne W.

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Why Take This Trip With Us?

REASON #01

MT Sobek's expert guides lead hikers to Mt. Hverfjall, one of the largest and best-preserved circular volcanic craters in the world.

REASON #02

The healing, rejuvenating sulfuric waters of the Myvatn Nature Baths offer a steaming 160F spa experience halfway through the journey.

REASON #03

This trip caters to hikers who relish adventure in unique lands but prefer hotel duvets to mountain huts.

What to Expect



ACTIVITIES

Hiking along wind-eroded landscapes and lava formations, soaking in warm geothermal waters, touring fishing villages, taking in art galleries and Viking history.



LODGING

Countryside hotels with spectacular views and a full spectrum of modern amenities, and a stylish, centrally located hotel in the capital.



CLIMATE

Iceland's weather motto is "Expect Everything!" Rain is possible at any time, but be sure to have your sunglasses and shorts too!

Meet Our Guides

Our expert guides and trip leaders are truly the key to our trips' success. Many are locals who live in-country year-round; others have made it their second home—all are passionate, enthusiastic and endlessly knowledgeable. Meet two of the guides that might be on your trip.

Solvi is an experienced guide, dedicated cartophile, and a coffee connoisseur. He spends his summers in the awesome outdoors, feeling the folklore imprinted in the Icelandic landscape and looking for ever new valleys. At home, he cares for his two-year-old daughter and hones his cooking skills with the family and their many dinner guests. Meet Solvi on MT Sobek's Hiking Iceland's Magical North adventure.

Solvi Signhildar Ulfsson

Kristjan has been guiding in Iceland since 2014 and has experience leading trips of all kinds—from hiking adventures to snowmobile rides across Icelandic glaciers. He has been a member in the Icelandic Association for Search and Rescue (ICE—SAR) since 1975 and has also been a Critical Incident Stress Management (CICM) volunteer for over 10 years. Kristjan has always been the outdoorsy type and enjoys sharing the natural wonders of Iceland on MT Sobek's adventures in northern Iceland.

Kristjan Bjornsson

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Itinerary

DAY 1

WELCOME TO ICELAND

Your MT Sobek guide will greet you at the airport, where you'll hop on a bus bound for the Viking World museum. Enjoy breakfast here and immerse yourself in the ancient history and lore of this legendary land. Climb aboard the magnificent Icelander, a Viking ship built in 1996 modeled after a 9th-century Viking vessel. Then it's a 90-minute drive to tonight's hotel, where you spend the rest of the day gearing up for the upcoming adventure.

Activity: 1-hour Viking Museum tour

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 2

CLIMB MÆLIFELLSHNJUKUR, KING OF THE MOUNTAINS

Rise and shine! Right after breakfast, continue the journey north, bound for the small fishing village of Siglufjörður. En route stop for the first hike, a moderate climb up Mælifellshnjukur (3,733'), the king of the mountains in Skagafjörður. This prominent peak showcases stellar sea and highlands views from the top. Upon arrival in tranquil Siglufjörður, settle into the beautiful waterfront hotel — built right into the old fisherman's marina — home for two nights. Enjoy an exquisite dinner prepared by the hotel restaurant's enthusiastic chefs.

Activity: 3–4 hours/2.5–3 miles hiking with 2,722' elevation gain/loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 3

ENJOY A HAUNTED HIKE AROUND SIGLUFJÖRÐUR

Take a long walk into the heart of this mystical region. Part of the route is allegedly haunted! The hike leads up along the old horse trail from Sauðadalur Valley back to Siglufjörður — on the highest mountain road in Iceland. Begin at Hraun Farm, then climb up and over the Siglufjarðarskarð Pass. Take in the views over the fjord and out to sea, descend to the town of Skarðsdalur and enjoy a picnic lunch, then take the private bus back to the hotel. Tonight, stroll into town for dinner.

Activity: 4–6 hours/6.5–7.5 miles hiking with 2,033' elevation gain/loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 4

EXPERIENCE THE NATURAL WONDERS OF ASBYRGI & DETTIFOSS

This morning, take a lovely drive into northeastern Iceland, "the edge of the Arctic." The first stop is Husavik, a quiet harbor town nestled at the foot of Mt. Husavikurfjall, surrounded by small lakes. After lunch here, head to the natural wonder of Asbyrgi, a horseshoe-shaped, steep-sided canyon divided by an 820-foot-wide rock formation known as Eyjan ("the Island"). Spot many of the region's abundant birds on a circuitous route toward

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Lake Astjorn, and head to thunderous Dettifoss, Iceland's greatest waterfall. Today concludes with a scenic drive to tonight's accommodations.

Activity: 2–3 hours/4.5 miles hiking with negligible elevation gain/loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 5

EXPLORE HVERFJALL & SOAK IN MYVATN NATURE BATHS

Start the day with a moderate hike to iconic Mt. Hverfjall, one of the largest and best-preserved circular volcanic craters in the world. The pinnacle of the hike is circumnavigating the crater rim. Descend Hverfjall through the lava-twisted towers, chimneys, tubes, and tunnels of otherworldly Dimmuborgir. After lunch, ease your body into the healing Myvatn Nature Baths, Iceland's northern Blue Lagoon. Drive to Akureyri and enjoy the afternoon to stroll around northern Iceland's capital, which sits at the head of Iceland's longest fjord.

Activity: 2–3 hours/5 miles hiking with 1,380' elevation gain/loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 6

SUMMIT AKUREYRI'S GUARDIAN PEAK

Today summit Akureyri's guardian peak, Mt Sulur. From Akureyri it resembles a perfect cone, but upon closer inspection — as you hike to its top — it's far from conical or even symmetrical. Completing this demanding hike deserves a reward — and there is no better post-hike treat than the best ice cream in Iceland. The sweet shop Brynju uses milk, not cream, to make its legendary ice creams. This evening enjoy dinner on your own in one of Akureyri's many eateries featuring local and international flavors.

Activity: 5 hours/3 miles hiking with 3,814' elevation gain/loss

Meals: B, L

DAY 7

JOIN THE ART & BEER SCENE IN AKUREYRI

Spend the final day in the north meandering the streets of Akureyri. Take in the booming arts scene along the Arts' Alley, a stretch of former industrial buildings that now house the Akureyri Art Museum (the first Icelandic institution outside of Reykjavik to concentrate solely on visual arts), North Iceland Artists' Studios, and loads of small galleries. Then check out the Kaldi craft beer brewery, for a tour and a sampling of their suds, known locally and internationally. Take an afternoon flight back to Reykjavik and share a farewell feast.

Activity: 1–2 hours/2.5 miles city walking

Meals: B, D

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DAY 8

DEPART FROM REYKJAVIK

Enjoy breakfast with the group before bidding farewell and transferring to the airport for your homebound flight.

Meals: B

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Dates

For full terms and conditions please visit www.mtsobek.com/terms. Please note that our itineraries may be subject to change.

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Pricing

2019

\$ 9,995 per person

2020

\$ 9,995 per person

Additional Cost

PRICE INCLUDES

- Expert leadership from experienced adventure guides
- Accommodations as noted in the itinerary
- Meals as noted in the daily itinerary
- Potable water and snacks throughout
- 1 glass of wine or beer at dinner
- All group entrance fees, activities, and ground transportation
- Arrival and departure day group airport transfers

PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE

- International airfare, any airport taxes, or excess baggage charges
- Lunch on Day 7 and dinner on Day 6
- Optional tips to your adventures guide(s) and driver(s)
- Personal expenses such as medical immunizations, phone calls, laundry, or souvenirs
- Airport transfers if arriving outside of the group transfer
- Optional travel protection

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➤ The World of MT Sobek

At Mountain Travel Sobek, we believe life is an adventure and adventure is life.

As the originators, innovators and leaders in adventure travel for more than five decades, we passionately create, craft and share indelible, transformative journeys to the world's most memorable places. Our more than 200 unique and once-in-a-lifetime trips are designed to inspire and exhilarate, enliven and excite--opening eyes and minds through profoundly personal connections with nature and culture.

Our small group and custom adventures span the globe, and the spectrum—of interests, environments and activities—every one expertly planned and knowledgeably and passionately guided. And our commitment to making every experience a remarkable one has earned us preferred travel outfitter status for National Geographic Active Expeditions, Active New York Times Journeys, and Smithsonian Active Journeys.

We are *the* adventure company.

Awards



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